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Grain and Feed

EU Rice Weekly, Brussels May 17 2005

2005

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Report Highlights:

This weekly report contains data on rice prices in the U.S. and the EU. It also lists current import duties in the EU. All information will be published as such in the USDA publication "Rice Market News".

Please note that the EU has changed its rice import tariffs from September 1, 2004, with a fixed tariff of EUR 65/MT for brown rice and EUR 175/MT for white rice.

On February 28, the EU and U.S. announced that they have come to an agreement over brown rice tariffs that may lead to the possibility of a lower brown rice tariff rate for US exports to the EU.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Brussels USEU [BE2] [E3]

Weekly rice report - Brussels, May 17, 2005

LOWEST OFFERING PRICES Basis C&F ARAG (unless otherwise stated)

Whole Long-Grain – old crop prices for immediate delivery

	US\$/MT	US\$/100 LBS
UNITED STATES	Bulk	Bulk
2 Milled 4 pct *	308.65	14.00
2 Brown 4/73 pct	303.14	13.75
Medium Milled 2/4 *	308.65	14.00
1 Brown parb 4/88 **	314.16	14.25

^{*} F.A.S. basis

^{**} While nominal price quotes are for 1 BROWN PARB 4/88, these quotes in reality refer to rice that meets all U.S. No.1 requirements except for one or two categories. Current and historical trade practice is for rice shipped to the EU to be graded only as No.2 and to be further processed upon arrival.

	EUR/MT	US\$/MT	US\$/100 LBS
EUROPEAN UNION	Bulk	Bulk	Bulk
Spain, Indica, Paddy	178	224	10.17
Spain, Indica, Milled	410	517	23.47
Italy, Thaibonnet, paddy	190	240	10.88
Italy, Thaibonnet, milled	385	486	22.04
Italian Indica, 5%, milled	300	379	17.18
Italian Indica, 5% milled, sortex, parboiled	330	417	18.89

Prices on local markets (Italy). Italian Indica prices: basis - bulk, free on truck. Spanish indica price, delivered northern Europe.

Thai prices are available from FAS/Bangkok's weekly rice report via http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/attacherep/default.asp

IMPORT LEVIES, from 9/1/2004

	EUR/MT	EUR/MT	US\$/MT	US\$/MT
		ACP	General	ACP
1006 20, Brown/Husked	65	21.67	83.37	27.79
1006 30, Milled/White	175	58.33	224.47	74.82
1006 40, Brokens	128	41.18	164.18	52.82

Note: With the introduction of the new rice regime in the EU on September 1, 2004, the EU has changed the import tariffs for brown and white rice. Replacing the Margin of Preference system are fixed tariffs for brown rice of EUR 65/MT and for white/milled rice, EUR 175/MT.

^{*}Note: On February 28, the US and EU announced an agreement that may lead to the possibility of lower applied tariffs for brown rice exported to the EU. See www.ustr.gov for more details.

EURO/US\$ rate 1.2621

Source: FT, 17 May 2005

EU Import License Data

EU Rice Import license data is available from CIRCA, part of website of the European Commission:

http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/agri/igriz/library?l=/publicsdomain/rice&vm=detailed&s b=Title

Then click on 'Import of Husked rice to the EU' for license data.

From September 1 2004 to May 12 2005, total EU import licenses for brown rice that is not basmati totaled 266,646 MT. (Note the table below gives data to 12 May).

Period: Sept 1 to May 12 Marketing Year, Year to Date

MT		2004-05	2003-04
Paddy	Japonica	592	435
	Indica	367	252
Brown	Japonica	4,954	2,753
	Indica	451,213	434,043
	Of which - basmati	189,469	244,505
Semi-milled	Japonica	1,455	788
	Indica	1,935	10,680
Milled	Japonica	19,864	12,949
	Indica	92,870	61,086
Total, in milled rice equivalents	Japonica	25,034	15,886
	Indica	406,214	370,678
	Total	431,248	386,564
	Brokens	84,240	93,714

Source: European Commission.

http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/agri/igriz/library?l=/publicsdomain/rice&vm=detailed&s b=Title

Note: Import licenses, once requested are valid for the month in which they were requested plus a further two months. For example, a license granted on the 10th November would be valid until the end of January.

Note: 2003-04 year to date above is only for the EU-15.